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CIA Needs Watching

Allen W. Dulles, the former director of the Central Intelligence Agency, has written an encyclopedia article which again stirs up an old question: To what extent should Congress keep an eye on the operations of the CIA? Dulles is against congressional restraints.

Numerous members of Congress, and other responsible citizens, disagree with Dulles on this point. They feel that Congress should exercise

general oversight over the CIA. They fear that if this is not done the intelligence organization will grow more and more powerful and play an increasing role in creation of policy even though this is not a part of its function.

These points are well taken. The CIA's operations can have important, even decisive, influence on foreign policy. The public would be better served by close but discreet congressional scrutiny of this powerful organization.

This editorial also appeared in the Greensburg,
Pennsylvania TRIBUNE-REVIEW, March 7, 1963.